UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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For Release to PM's, JUNE 25, 1962

NEW PAY PLAN FOR ALEUT RESIDENTS OF PRIBILOF ISLANDS IN ALASKA APPROVED BY INTERIOR

A new pay plan effective July 1, 1962, provides that all Aleut residents of the Pribilof Islands in Alaska employed under the Fish and Wildlife Service's Bureau of Commercial Fisheries Fur Seal Program will receive compensation determined in accordance with the pay structure of the Federal Civil Service, the Department of the Interior announced today.

This determination of rates of compensation will be made under the provisions of the Classification Act of 1949, as amended, or under the Wage Board or Administrative Procedures established by the Department of the Interior. Special provisions are included for sealing crews whose pay rates will be established on the basis of wage board rates for laborers, plus the application of a percentage differential in recognition of the levels of work involved.

The former practice of partially subsidizing the cost of housing, food, fuel, and supplies for the Aleuts will be discontinued with the inception of the higher rates of compensation. The original Compensation Plan of 1949 and the revised plan of 1954 have been essential and effective steps in making possible the transition from the earlier economy of the Islands when all payments to the inhabitants were made in the form of Government-furnished housing, food, clothing, schooling, medical care, and the like, the Department said.

With the completion of this successful transition, resident Aleuts employed by the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries can be compensated in the future on the same basis and under the same laws, rules, regulations, and policies as other Department employees. The islands of St. Paul and St. George in the Pribilofs have about 600 residents. However, not all are employed by the Bureau.

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